Education for adolescent girls

2802. PROF. (SMT.) BHARATI RAY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether various UN Organisations in a joint study with the Government of India, have emphasised educating adolescent girls through non-formal systems, in order to achieve universal elementary education in the country; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir. The Joint Government of India—UN System Education (Janshala) Programme carried out a study titled "Educating Adolescent Girls—Opening Windows" to map experiences on educating adolescent girls through the non-formal system.

(b) Government has taken several steps for the education of adolescent girls through various programmes for universalisation of elementary education and women's empowerment such as the District Primary Education Programme (DPEP), Lok Jumbish, Janshala and Mahila Samakhya. These programmes have targeted strategies to mainstream adolescent girls into the formal system through bridge courses, camp schools etc. The new centrally sponsored schemes of Sarva ShikshaAbhiyan (SSA) and EGS &ATE also target adolescent girls. Besides, the Kishori Shakti Yojana under ICDS aims to provide literacy and numeracy skills to adolescent girls through non-formal education.

Transfer of KV teachers above fifty

2803. DR. M. N. DAS: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether recent transfers of a large number of Kendriya Vidyalaya teachers have received sharp criticism from many quarters, as many of the teachers above 50 have been transferred from one region to the other, that too in far-flung areas; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to revise the transfer policy and effect transfers of teachers in the age group of 50 and above in the nearby region only; if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLIMANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) The recent transfers in KVS has been done in view of a broader policy to accommodate the requests of teachers who have been at a place for long time. The policy has evoked a mixed response. Teachers who have two years of service have been exempted. Since the transfers have not taken into consideration the age of a teacher otherwise, the data in respect of such teachers is not maintained.

Central Schools

† 2804. SHRI VIKRAM VERMA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of districts in the country where Central Schools have not been opened so far, the State-wise details thereof; and

(b) the details of action being taken for opening Central Schools in those district headquarters?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) Kendriya Vidyalayas are not opened district-wise. The main objective of the Kendriya Vidyalayas is primarily to cater to the educational needs of the children of the transferable Central Government employees including Defence and Paramilitary personnel by providing a common programme of education. The Vidyalayas are opened at places which have concentration of adequate number of such Central Government employees and where availability of infrastructural facilities, as per norms of Sangathan, are assured by the sponsoring authority.

Swayamsiddha and Swadhar Schemes for Women's Welfare

2805. SHRI R. P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more schemes named Swayamsiddha and Swadhar have been announced recently for women's welfare and empowerment;

(b) it so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Swayamsiddha is only a renamed version of the existing schemes called Indira Manila Yojana and the Manila Samridhi Yojana; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.